

Oxford Revise | AQA German Higher | Update

Since publication of the *Oxford Revise AQA GCSE German Higher* revision guide, the examination board AQA have made some changes to the GCSE French exam specification. The following chart gives you guidance to support you in your 2026 exams in light of these updates.

What has AQA changed	Oxford Revise Page(s)	What you need to know
<p><i>Geboren</i> (born), previously included as an adjective, is now included for use with an auxiliary verb.</p> <p>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</p>	20, 22, 23, 27	<p>Make sure that you know <i>geboren</i> (born). You now need to know how to use the perfect tense structure <i>Ich bin ... geboren</i>/ I was born, and to recognise and use it in other forms.</p> <p>For example: <i>Wo bist du geboren?</i> Where were you born? <i>Ich bin in Berlin geboren.</i> I was born in Berlin. <i>Ich bin in der Schweiz geboren.</i> He was born in Switzerland.</p>
<p>The reflexive verb <i>sich fühlen</i> (to feel) has been added to AQA's set vocabulary list.</p> <p>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</p>	25	<p>You need to know the reflexive verb <i>sich fühlen</i> (to feel). It follows the pattern of the other reflexive verbs.</p> <p>For example: <i>Man fühlt sich nie allein.</i> You /We never feel alone. <i>Ich fühle mich krank.</i> I feel ill.</p>

<p><i>Verboten</i> (forbidden, banned), previously included as an adjective, is now included for use with an auxiliary verb.</p> <p><i>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</i></p>	<p>38, 147</p>	<p>Make sure that you know that <i>verboten</i> ('forbidden / banned') can be used not only as an adjective but also as a past participle (with <i>haben</i>).</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Adjective Rauchen in der Schule ist streng verboten. <i>Smoking in school is strictly forbidden.</i></p> <p>Past participle Der Direktor hat Handys verboten. The headteacher has banned mobile phones.</p>
<p><i>Geöffnet</i> (open) and <i>geschlossen</i> (closed) are now included as adjectives as well as past participles.</p> <p><i>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</i></p>	<p>57, 106, 108, 109,</p>	<p>Make sure that you know <i>geöffnet</i> - open and <i>geschlossen</i> - closed as past participles of the verbs <i>öffnen</i> and <i>schließen</i>. You now need to know that they can be used as simple adjectives too.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p><i>Das Kunstmuseum war letzte Woche geschlossen, aber wird am Samstag geöffnet sein.</i></p> <p>The art gallery was closed last week but will be open on Saturday. <i>Das Museum war geschlossen.</i> The museum was closed.</p>

<p><i>Gebrochen</i> (broken) is now included as an adjective as well as a past participle.</p> <p><i>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</i></p>	<p>92, 94, 95</p>	<p>Make sure that you know that <i>gebrochen</i> - broken is the past participle of the verb <i>brechen</i> - to break.</p> <p><i>gebrochen</i> can also be used as a simple adjective, an alternative to <i>kaputt</i>.</p> <p>For example: <i>Mein Handy ist gebrochen.</i> My mobile is broken. <i>Die Kamera ist gebrochen.</i> The camera is broken.</p>
<p><i>Verloren</i> (lost) is now listed as an adjective as well as a past participle.</p> <p><i>(Spec ref: Appendix 2 Vocabulary)</i></p>	<p>100</p>	<p>Make sure you know that <i>verloren</i> (lost) can be used as an adjective (with <i>sein</i>) as well as being a past participle.</p> <p>For example: <i>Viele Tierarten sind jetzt verloren.</i> Many animal species are now lost.</p> <p><i>In allen Zeitungen liest man viel über verlorene Tierarten.</i> In every paper you read a lot about lost animal species.</p>
<p>Words which have more than one meaning or which function as more than one part of speech will not be separately listed where their meaning is obvious.</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>Make sure that you know that some words on the vocabulary list can be used in more than one way. Such words will not be separately listed when their meaning remains clear.</p>

<p>(3.3.1 Vocabulary)</p>		<p>For example: The verb <i>lesen</i> to read and the noun <i>das Lesen</i> reading.</p>
<p>Students need to understand how the meaning of core words on the prescribed vocabulary list can be changed, often by the addition of certain prefixes and suffixes. Previously, these word formation rules only applied to the Reading paper. Now, they can be used in other papers as long as the original base word is clearly recognisable in the new word formed. Some words have been removed from the set vocabulary list and the base forms added instead. This is because the derived forms can be tested using the word formation rules.</p> <p>(Spec ref: 3.2 Grammar; 3.2.1.6 and 3.2.2.6 Derivational morphology))</p>	<p>162, 163</p>	<p>You need to be aware that in any part of the exam, not just in the Reading papers, you may encounter or use words which do not appear on the vocabulary list.</p> <p>Such words are derived from a basic word form which is on the vocabulary list. Meanings are often, but not exclusively, changed by the addition of a prefix or suffix.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>With prefixes <i>ungeduldig</i> impatient <i>Mein Lieblingessen</i> my favourite meal</p> <p>With suffixes <i>arbeitslos</i> unemployed <i>zweite</i> second <i>die Freundschaft</i> friendship <i>die Dunkelheit</i> darkness</p> <p>Capitalisation Verb to neuter noun <i>das Schwimmen</i> swimming <i>das Aussehen</i> look/appearance</p>